

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez has released the following statement in response to today's action by the U.S. Senate to effectively kill immigration reform:

"This Congress has to act to secure our borders and address the illegal immigration crisis. Unfortunately, instead of moving forward legislation as a starting point for much needed immigration reform, Senate Republicans for all intents and purposes killed immigration reform today.

"They had the chance to help lay the foundation for Congress to reform our nation's immigration system, a system we all agree is broken, and instead they settled for an irresponsible do-nothing approach.

"There are an estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. today, our border is not secure, and our nation's agricultural industry and small business community needs help dealing with a labor shortage, but those issues are just not that important to those Republican Senators more interested in using the issue as a political wedge than doing something to fix the problem.

"I believe the time for immigration reform is now but the Republicans have once again failed to be part of the solution to this national problem."

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